

FY2003 REMAP SOLICITATION

Program Overview

The Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program is a multi-pronged research approach to the development and utilization of ecological monitoring as a necessary and critical component of environmental management and protection. Authorization for the EMAP program is provided under the following statute
Clean Water Act, as amended, Public Law 95-217, 33 U.S.C. 1251
Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, amended, Public Law 93-523

The Regional Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (REMAP) is an integral part of this program. At the end of FY 02 we came under EPA Order 5700.5 which mandates competition for cooperative agreements. Since early FY 03 we have been negotiating with the Office of the Competition Advocate to come to a fair agreement on competition within the REMAP program. The program changes can be summarized as follows:

- ORD will develop an entry for the REMAP program in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA). Eligible applicants for the REMAP program will be limited to State institutions, including State universities.
- REMAP solicitations will include fixed measurable evaluation criteria and selection criteria that will be used by ORD and the Regions to ensure objective evaluation and selection of REMAP proposals.
- There will be common cutoff dates for applicants' submission of REMAP proposals (cutoff dates can be modified for all applicants by posting changes on the Agency web site where the solicitations are announced).

The attached flow chart and accompanying text show the program in more detail. By having a REMAP CFDA entry the program can continue to focus on the mission as well as meet the mandate of EPA Order 5700.5. MED will complete the yearly updates to the CFDA as required.

- c ORD anticipates stable funding, \$2 M, in extramural S.&T. for REMAP during FY 2003, with \$200K available to support projects in each Region. Although we have no budget at this time, you should go forward as if the funding was in place. Supporting documentation is available on the REMAP internet website. (<http://www.epa.gov/emap/remap>).

Goals of REMAP

- c Assist in incorporating the latest science on ecological monitoring into the Regional, State, Tribal, and local environmental decision-making process
- c Advance the science of ecological monitoring as a tool for Regional, State, and Tribal local problem formulation in risk assessments and measuring the ecological results of risk management option selection

FY03/FY04 Areas of Emphasis:

Many of the current State monitoring, management, and restoration programs emphasize the need to consider ecological health at the scale of small watersheds within larger basins and ecoregions. Consistent with the basic goals of REMAP, ORD is especially interested in the FY03 and FY04 funding cycles to advance the science needed to extend watershed-based monitoring designs that will improve the Unified Watershed Assessments, build an ecological foundation for listing and delisting under Section 303 (d), and development of partnerships state/state, and Region/Region. Pertinent research issues include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) Probabilistic sampling within or across watersheds, using watersheds as a fundamental unit for assessment
- 2) Large watersheds along the great rivers; Missouri River, Upper Mississippi River, Ohio River
- 3) Methods to utilize existing data resources through partnerships with other federal, state, and local agencies.
- 4) Implementation of multi-region partnerships to link state-wide monitoring networks;
- 5) Development of biological reference conditions to enable indicator development and watershed assessment

Criteria for Selection of Pre-proposals and Proposals

- c Addresses real Regional environmental issues where monitoring results will influence decisions
- c Advances the state of science of ecological monitoring
- c Incorporates good scientific practices as evidenced by an acceptable external peer review
- c Incorporates and supports the development of the EMAP/CENR approach to ecological monitoring
- c Addresses land use, stressors, and biological endpoints

REMAP Process

C The following procedures will be followed:

- A. Each Region, through a REMAP coordinator, may submit up to two prioritized pre-proposals to the REMAP coordinator
- B. Copies should be sent via e-mail for ease of distribution to the ORD EMAP Working Group
- C. ORD and Regions negotiate, through the ORD workgroup, which pre-proposal(s) in each Region should be developed into full proposal(s).
- D. Each pre-proposal, that is identified for further development will be adopted by an ORD division.
- E. Regions and their cooperators will develop full proposals in collaboration with their ORD division sponsor. The participating ORD division is responsible for extramural management including execution of the peer review process. In some cases it may be appropriate that a Regional extramural funding mechanism is in the best interest of the program, however the ORD division is responsible for ensuring the peer-review is completed and that an ORD assessment of the Regional extramural vehicle to accept S.&T. funds has been documented.
- F. Final relevancy review by ORD Work Group
- G. ORD obtains a technical evaluation of full proposals by external peer review
- H. Response to peer review comments
- I. Assistance funds will be applied based on processing of appropriate funding documents by the sponsoring ORD division

Criteria for Submission of REMAP Project Pre-proposals

- C Projects should be consistent with the EMAP approach to environmental monitoring
- C Multiple projects can be proposed by a Region
- C Total funding to a Region will not exceed \$200K per year
- C Project periods should be for a two-year duration
- C Pre-proposals should be no more than three (3) pages
- C Regions can propose to use a portion of FY 2003 resources to add to or complete an existing REMAP project
- * **New starts must list all prior REMAP projects, and document that ongoing projects are fully funded and meeting stated objectives on time, including a listing of titles of all completed products and their location.**

Format for the Pre-proposals

The preproposals must follow the guidance given in this Implementation Plan, and the full proposals must follow the REMAP Review Guidelines which will be sent along with the approved pre-proposals. Adherence to this guidance will expedite the proposal review process.

- 1) Cover memo from the Regional Administrator (or delegated authority) transmitting the pre-proposal packages to ORD
- 2) Pre-proposal (not to exceed three (3) pages in length)
 - A) Project description
 - i) Purpose
 - ii) Rational/need, including consistency with Regional strategy
 - B) Project objectives
 - i) Stated as questions or hypotheses to be tested
 - C) Approach
 - i) General approach-what is to be done
 - ii) Basic design of project
 - iii) Specific measurements that will be monitored
 - D) Time- line and potential product deliverables
 - E) Participants and partners under proposed work
 - F) Budget
 - i) Estimated project cost
 - ii) In-kind services, and other potential sources of support

Full proposals developed for REMAP projects will be prepared cooperatively by ORD, Regions, and organizations proposing to conduct the research. It is expected that the organizations involved could include states, tribes, local governments, and academic institutions.

Submit Preproposals or other plans for using FY 2003, resources to:

Joseph J. Dlugosz, REMAP Coordinator
U.S. EPA/ORD/NHEERL
Mid-Continent Ecology Division
6201 Congdon Blvd.
Duluth, MN 55804

Because of the delay in approval of the FY03 program the timeline has been condensed (as follows) to about six months. If problems arise we will publish any changes on the REMAP website as required by the Office of the Competition Advocate.

REVISED July 17, 2003 **FY 2003 Timeline for REMAP**

05/01/03: Call for new pre-proposals or requests for incremental funding approved from previous years

08/08/03: Due date for submission of new pre-proposals

08/22/03: Pre-proposal ORD working group reviews returned to Regions (Draft pre-proposals sent to appropriate ORD divisions for potential sponsorship)

09/08/03: Reconciliation of all new pre-proposals with the Regions (Pre-proposals sent to appropriate ORD division(s) for assignment of PO and preparation of full proposals)

10/10/03: Full proposals due to ORD work group for programmatic/mission review

10/18/03: ORD working group completes programmatic/mission review and forwards the completed proposals to the appropriate ORD Division for internal/external review

11/11/03: ORD sponsoring Division completes internal/extramural reviews of full proposals

11/24/03: Funding packages submitted to MED for final review/funding

MAY 2003 REGIONAL EMAP WORKING GROUP (REMAP)

Name	Region	Telephone number
<u>Hilary Snook</u>	1	(617) 918-8670
<u>Darvene Adams</u>	2	(732) 321-6700
<u>Tom Pheiffer</u>	3	(410) 305-2740
<u>Jerry Stober</u>	4	(706) 355-8705
<u>Arthur Lubin</u>	5	(312) 886-6226
<u>Charlie Howell</u>	6	(214) 665-8354
<u>Lyle Cowles</u>	7	(913) 551-7081
<u>Tom Johnson</u>	8	(303) 312-6226
<u>Robert K. Hall</u>	9	(775) 784-4413
<u>Gretchen Hayslip</u>	10	(206) 553-168

May 2003
REMAP ORD-WIDE WORKING GROUP

Name	Office/Lab	Division/Location	Telephone
<u>Joseph Dlugosz*</u>	NHEERL	MED/Duluth	(218) 529-5215
<u>Larry Goodman</u>	NHEERL	GED/Gulf Breeze	(850) 934-9205
<u>David Jewett</u>	NRMRL	SPRD/Ada	(580) 436-8560
<u>Brian Melzian</u>	NHEERL	AED/Narragansett	(401) 782-3188
<u>Anne Neal</u>	NERL	ESD/Las Vegas	(702) 798-2347
<u>Paul Ringold</u>	NHEERL	WED/Corvallis	(541) 754-4565
<u>Jo Thompson</u>	NHEERL	MED/Duluth	(218) 529-5198
<u>Mike Cyterski</u>	NERL	ERD/Athens	(706) 355-8230
<u>John Macauley</u>	NHEERL	GED/Gulf Breeze	(850) 934-9353
<u>Ronald Landy</u>	ORD/OAA/OSP	Region III	(410) 305-2757

*Workgroup coordinator

REMAP ORD PROJECT OFFICERS (05/29/03)

Region 1– Jerry Pesch, AED/NHEERL (401) 782-3007

Designing and Implementing a Program to Evaluate New England's
Wadeable Streams

Region 2 –*Sandi Benyi AED/NHEERL (401) 782-3041

NY/NJ Harbor Study (part 3)
Dave Jewett SPRD/NERL (580) 436-8560
Cohansey- Maurice Watershed Assessment
Sandi Benyi AED/NHEERL (401)782-3041
Environmental Assessment of Barnegat Bay.

Region 3 - Naomi Detenbeck MED/NHEERL (218) 529-5204

Using a Watershed-Based Design to Develop an Index of Biotic Integrity for West
Virginia Streams

*Tom Pheiffer ORD/Region III (410) 305-2740

Probabilistic Assessment of Benthic Macro Invertebrates, Hydrophobic Dissolved
Trace Organic Contaminants, Nutrients, Selected Water Quality and Sediment
Parameters in Nontidal Streams and Rivers of Virginia

*Rich Sumner WED/NHEERL (541) 754-4444

Validation and Sensitivity Analysis for a Level II (Rapid) Wetland Assessment
Method Using Level III (Comprehensive) Assessment Data

Region 4 - Peter Kalla Region IV (706) 355-8778 Regional Lead

Southeastern Wadeable Streams

John Macauley NHEERL/GED (850) 934-9353

Jerry Stober Region IV (706) 355-8705 Regional Lead
Everglades program

Region 5 - Anne Neal , ESD/ NERL, (702) 798-2347

An Ecological Assessment of Invasive and Aggressive Plant Species in Coastal
Wetlands of the Laurentian Great lakes

Bhagya Subramanian EERD/NERL (513) 569-7349

Development of a Probability-Based Assessment for Wadeable Streams in
Wisconsin

John Brazner MED/NHEERL, (218) 529-5207

Regionalization and Index of Biotic Integrity Development for Northern Lakes and
Forests

Mary Moffett MED/NHEERL (218) 529- 5174

Evaluation of Great Lakes Nearshore Coastal Wetlands and Development of
Watershed Biotic Indicators

Region 6 - Virginia Engle GED/NHEERL (850) 934-9354

Development and Implementation of a Seagrass Conservation Monitoring Program

* Michael Lewis GED/NHEERL (850) 934-9382

Biological Integrity in Streams and Rivers of Louisiana and Development of
Appropriate Water Quality Standards

Region 7- Frank McCormick EERD/ NERL (513) 569-7097

Implementing a Probability-Based Monitoring Design Within Missouri's Statewide Resource Assessment and Monitoring Program

A Probabilistic Survey of Iowa Stream Resources

Joseph DLugosz MED/NHEERL (218) 529-5215

Measuring Status and Trends of Biologic Resources In Kansas Streams Using EMAP

Probability -Based Sampling Design

Rich Sumner WED/NHEERL (541) 754-4444

*Determining Reference Conditions for Iowa Wetlands and Monitoring Baseline Indicators of Wetland Health

Joseph DLugosz MED/NHEERL (218) 529-5215

Implementing a Probability-Based Monitoring Design Within Nebraska's Rotating Basin Assessment Plan

Region 8- Jo Thompson MED/NHEERL (218) 529-5198

Evaluation of the Biotic Integrity of Prairie Streams in the Missouri and Yellowstone River basins, Montana

Jo Thompson MED/NHEERL (218) 529-5198

Development of Indices of Biological Integrity for Floodplain Wetlands along the Missouri River in North Dakota.

Region 9- Brian Hill MED/NHEERL (218) 529-5224

Assessment of Aquatic Ecosystems in a Highly Modified Agriculturally Influenced Environment "CA Central Valley"

* denotes new start in FY02